REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 28-35, 37 and 38 are pending. Claims 4-27 and 36 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The drawings were objected to as failing to show a support member, as recited in claims 1 and 2. Figure 2 has been amended to include a front housing of a compressor 1a, which serves as a support member. The front housing 1a was disclosed in the original specification (See the paragraph that begins on page 18, line 1), and this change does not involve new matter.

In Fig. 4, reference characters 11e and 11f have been added to indicate the outer annular portion 11e and the inner annular portion 11f of the pulley 11. This is consistent with changes made to the specification. No new matter has been added to Fig. 4.

The specification was objected to for the misspelling of the word "buckling" on page 20. This error has been corrected.

Paragraph 5b of the office action states that the reference character T is missing from the drawings. However, T is not a drawing reference character. The symbol T represents torque in the equation of page 20, line 22. The paragraph beginning on line 21 of page 20 has been amended to clarify this point. The applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 32 and 38 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. As for claim 32, the paragraph of page 18, line 1, has been amended to recite that "A radial load induced by the tension of the V belt can be received by the front housing 1a of the compressor 1 through the pulley body 11 and the radial bearing 12 without being received by a shaft of the compressor." This recitation is further supported by Fig. 2. Thus, each torque transmitting member is free from radial loads. This information was obvious from the original paragraph of page 18, line 1, and the original Figure 2. Thus, no new matter has been added.

As for claim 38, on page 18, lines 21-23, recites that the bridge portion 13d functions as a torque limiter mechanism that limits the maximum torque capable of being transmitted from the engine E/G to the compressor. Figure 2 shows that the axial extent of the bridge portion 13d is within the axial extent of the first rotor. Thus, the originally filed specification provides support

for the limitations of lines 6 and 7 of claim 38. To provide literal support in the specification for the words of claim 38, lines 6 and 7, these words have been added to the paragraph that begins on page 18, line 18. Thus, the applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 32 and 38 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 28-31, and 33-37 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by the patent to Reich. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that said first rotor includes an outer annular portion, an inner annular portion and a plurality of projections. Claim 1 also recites that the inner annular portion is radially and inwardly spaced from the outer annular portion, and each projection radially and inwardly extends from the outer annular portion to the inner annular portion, and each projection axially extends in a direction generally parallel to a rotational axis of said first rotor. Claim 1 further recites that the torque transmitting members of each pair are joined together by a connecting member, which is axially positioned between the second rotor and the corresponding one of the plurality of projections on one axial side of the corresponding one of the plurality of projections.

The patent to Reich fails to disclose or suggest the limitations of claim 1. That is, in particular, the patent to Reich fails to disclose or suggest a first rotor in which projections extend axially and radially and inwardly from an outer annular portion to an inner annular portion.

Further, in the patent to Reich, a connecting member is located outward of the projection 32 of the first rotor 33. However, claim 1 recites a connecting member that is axially positioned between the second rotor and a corresponding projection and positioned on one axial side of the corresponding projection. Thus, the patent to Reich fails to satisfy the limitations of claim 1.

Claims 28-35, 37, and 38 depend on claim 1 and are considered to be patentable over the patent to Reich for the reasons given with respect to claim 1.

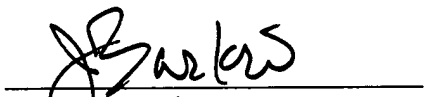
Claim 2 has been amended to recite that said first rotor includes an outer annular portion, an inner annular portion and a plurality of projections. Claim 2 further recites that the inner annular portion is radially and inwardly spaced from the outer annular portion, and each projection radially and inwardly extends from the outer annular portion to the inner annular portion and axially extends in a direction generally parallel to the rotational axis of the first rotor. Claim 2 also recites that each pair of torque transmitting members is constructed such that the torque transmitting members of each pair are joined together by a connecting member, which is

axially positioned between the second rotor and a corresponding one of the plurality of projections and positioned on one axial side of the corresponding projection. As mentioned above with respect to claim 1, this limitation is not disclosed or suggested in the patent to Reich. Therefore, claim 2 and its dependents are considered to be patentable over the patent to Reich.

In view of the forgoing, the applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Please charge any unforeseen fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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